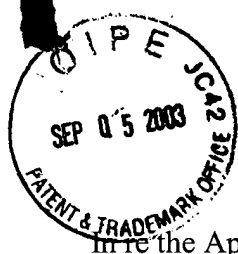


2881



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **NAKASUJI, Mamoru et al.**

Group Art Unit: **2881**

Serial No.: **09/891,511**

Examiner: **Jack I. BERMAN**

Filed: **June 27, 2001**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 8779

For: **INSPECTION SYSTEM BY CHARGED PARTICLE BEAM AND METHOD OF
MANUFACTURING DEVICES USING THE SYSTEM**

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: September 5, 2003

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated **August 7, 2003**.

In the Action, restriction is required between Group (I), Claims 1-16 and 60; Group (II), Claims 17-20; Group (III), Claims 21-25; Group (IV), Claims 26-30; Group (V), Claims 31-40; Group (VI), Claims 41-49 and 55-59; and Group (VII), Claims 50-54.

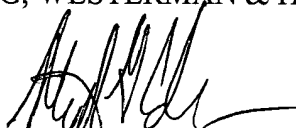
Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group (I), Claims 1-16 and 60 for prosecution in this application. This election is made without traverse, it being understood that the applicants' rights to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 USC 120 and 35 USC 121 are retained.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

In the event any additional fees are required in connection with this response, please
charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE